

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-8. (cancelled)

9. (new) A device for the provision of access to data in various data sources, wherein the data are data of an automation device, and/or data of an ERP device, and/or data of an MES device, and/or other production-relevant data of another data source, wherein the device comprises mechanisms for providing a uniform, central access to all data sources and for uniform visualization of the data in the data sources.

10. (new) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the mechanisms provide a role-based access to the data in the various data sources such that for one or more users uniform access to the data sources predetermined for a particular user, and visualization of this data predetermined for the user, are ensured.

11. (new) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the mechanisms comprise an access administration device for providing a password-protected access and a role-based access for one or more users to the data in the various data sources.

12. (new) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the mechanisms comprise an access administration device for providing a password-protected access and a role-based access for one or more users to the data in the various data sources.

13. (new) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the mechanisms comprise a visualization device to visualize the data in the various data sources in a role-based manner.

14. (new) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the mechanisms comprise a visualization device to visualize the data in the various data sources in a role-based manner.

15. (new) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mechanisms comprise a visualization device to visualize the data in the various data sources in a role-based manner.

16. (new) The device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the visualization device visualizes data from different data sources jointly in a visualization window.

17. (new) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

18. (new) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

19. (new) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

20. (new) The device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

21. (new) The device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

22. (new) The device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the mechanisms comprise a data acquisition device for assembling data from the various data sources in a role-based manner.

23. (new) The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the data acquisition device accesses the various data sources in a manner controlled by an access administration device and acquires data from these data sources, wherein the data acquisition device provides this data to a visualization device.

24. (new) The device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the data acquisition device accesses the various data sources in a manner controlled by the access administration device and acquires data

from the data sources, wherein the data acquisition device makes the data available to the visualization device.

25. (new) The device as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a polling device configurable by users in order to acquire data cyclically from the various data sources and to evaluate the data in such a way that upon attainment of a criterion configurable by users a corresponding message is automatically generated.

26. (new) A device for providing access to data stemming from various data sources, comprising:
a mechanism for providing a uniform, central access to the data sources; and
a mechanism for uniform visualization of the data in the data sources, wherein the data sources provide data from an automation device, and/or data from an ERP device, and/or data from an MES device, and/or data from other production-relevant data sources.